

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17 are presently active in this case.

The Official Action mailed May 7, 2003 objected to the drawings as not showing the claimed feature of a convex portion.¹ In response to this objection, Applicants' Amendment filed August 7, 2003, included a Letter Submitting Replacement Drawing Sheets, which added the convex portions 24' to Figure 3. Moreover, the Amendment changed the specification to refer to the convex portions 24' of Figure 3. Upon further consideration, however, Applicants believe that this change detracts from the clarity of the specification and drawings as originally filed. Therefore, the present Supplement Amendment submits a replacement drawing sheet for Figure 3 and amends the specification to eliminate the above noted changes made in the August 7, 2003 Amendment. In response to the examiner's objection to the drawing, Applicants note that the convex portions are indicated in Fig. 12 with reference numeral 43, and are described on page 26, line 22 through page 27, line 9 of the specification. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the objection with respect to the claimed convex portions be withdrawn.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in

¹ See Official Action mailed May 7, 2003 at page 3, lines 9-12.

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Reply to Office Action of May 7, 2003
Supplemental to the Amendment filed August 7, 2003

condition for formal Allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Spot welding is used for the welding between the mask body 13 and the frame 14. As shown in FIG. 3, a plurality of concave portions 24 are formed at least on the inner surface of the skirt portion 13b at the positions of the welding points 19. These concave portions 24 are each formed like a dimple having a smaller area than the area of the end surface of the pressing-side electrode of the welding device which will be described later, and are also formed over a larger area than the area of the end surface of the pressing-side electrode. ~~Alternatively, a plurality of convex portions 24' may be formed on at least the inner surface of the skirt portion 13b as shown in phantom in Figure 3.~~

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 3. This sheet, which includes Fig. 3, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 3.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet